

IN THE CLAIMS

1. - 7. (canceled)

8. (currently amended) A method for adjusting the resistance of a hydraulic damper which has at least two chambers, the volume of one of which, a compression (expansion) chamber, is reduced, and the volume of the other, an expansion (compression) chamber, is increased during forward (return) movement of a piston dividing them in a working cylinder of said damper, wherein due to the action of excessive pressure developed in said compression (expansion) chamber relative to other cavities of said damper during forward (return) movement of said piston, working liquid flows through a compression (expansion) channel which couples said compression (expansion) chamber to the other cavities of said damper, the action of excessive pressure of the working liquid on parts of said damper creates the resistance of said damper, mechanical energy spent on displacing said piston being consumed to accomplish work on overcoming the resistance, wherein in order to adjust the resistance of said damper, a flow cross section of said compression (expansion) channel is changed, depending on the value of excessive pressure, wherefore a force with which said excessive pressure is acting on a movable element of a compression (expansion) valve whose current position determines a current linear size of a slit of said valve, is balanced by an oppositely directed elastic force of an elastic element of said valve, characterized in that said forward (return) movement of said piston is converted into a linear displacement of a support of said elastic element of said compression (expansion) valve relative to a seat of said valve, each position of said piston in said working cylinder is set in accordance with a respective position of said support of said elastic element relative to said seat of said valve, a

respective value of deformation of said elastic element of said compression (expansion) valve when closed and a respective force with which said elastic element presses said movable element against said seat of said valve when closed, a current position of which movable element determining the current linear size of said slit of said valve.

9. - 12. (canceled)

13. (previously presented) A device for adjusting the resistance of a hydraulic damper, which device comprises a hydraulic damper and compression and expansion chambers formed as a result of dividing a cavity of said damper with a piston which is secured to a rod, a compression (expansion) channel wherethrough a working liquid flows from said compression (expansion) chamber to said expansion (compression) chamber during forward (return) movement of said piston in a working cylinder of said damper and which includes at least a compression (expansion) valve which comprises a plate closing an outlet aperture of said valve on the side of said expansion (compression) chamber, an elastic element, the elastic deformation of which occurs along a longitudinal axis of said working cylinder of said damper, and a support of said elastic element to fix a position of that end of said elastic element which is opposite to said piston, relative to a seat of said compression (expansion) valve, characterized in that said piston of said damper and said support of said elastic element of said compression (expansion) valve are made so as to be capable of turning separately about the longitudinal axis of said working cylinder of said damper; at least two longitudinal guides are provided on an inner surface of said working cylinder of said damper within a section thereof coincident with a stroke of said piston, at least one of said

longitudinal guides being helical; at each point of the piston stroke an angle of turning said support of said elastic element of said compression (expansion) valve relative to said piston is preset by the central angle between said guides; a structural element by which said piston interacts with one of said guides is positioned on a side surface of said piston facing the inner surface of said working cylinder of said damper; another structural element by which said support of said elastic element of said compression (expansion) valve interacts with the other one of said guides is positioned on a side surface of that support, the support of said support facing the inner surface of said working cylinder of said damper; said support of said elastic element of said compression (expansion) valve is made for moving along a cylindrical shank of said piston which has an axis thereof coincident with the longitudinal axis of said working cylinder of said damper and which is provided with at least one longitudinal, helical guide on an external surface thereof, said guide presetting a longitudinal position of said support of said elastic element of said compression (expansion) valve on the cylindrical shank of said piston for each angle of turning said support relative to said piston; a third structural element by which said support of said elastic element of said compression (expansion) valve interacts with said guide positioned on the shank of said piston is positioned on a side surface of said support facing the cylindrical shank of said piston, said structural element by which said support of said elastic element of said compression (expansion) valve interacts with said guide provided on said working cylinder of said damper is made for moving along said support in the direction of the longitudinal axis of said working cylinder of said damper by as much as at least the maximum travel of said support along the cylindrical shank of said piston.

14. - 17. (canceled)